

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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P 121717 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6743

INFO USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 247

C O N F I D E N T I A L PANAMA 1259

E. O. 11652 : GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, PN

SUBJECT: SC MEETING IN PANAMA- CONVERSATION WITH BOYD

FROM SCHAUFLE

1. DURING FLIGHT TO PANAMA CITY, SPENT TWO HOURS IN CONVERSATION WITH PANAMANIAN PERMREP BOYD ON DIVERSE SUBJECTS.

2. REGARDING POSSIBLE DECLARATION BOYD ADMITTED HE RUNNING INTO REAL PROBLEMS , ESPECIALLY WITH FRANCE AND, IN PART, USSR. SAID HE NEEDED OUR HELP AND WOULD BE CONSULTING CLOSELY WITH ALL DELEGATIONS. EXPRESSED MISGIVINGS ABOUT GETTING CONCURRENCE ALL SC MEMBERS ON DECLARATION OR EVEN STATEMENT OF THE SC PRESIDENT. I SUGGESTED THAT BEST WAY OUT OF THIS DILEMNA WAS TO AVOID ANY DECLARATION, CONSENSUS STATEMENT OR COMMUNIQUE. SECOND BEST WOULD BE SUMMARY OR RESUME BY PRESIDENT OF WHAT HAD BEEN SAID. THIS WOULD STILL REQUIRE CONSULTATION BUT NOT AGREEMENT ON GREAT LIST OF PRINCIPLES. AFTER MORE DISCUSSION, BOYD SEEMED TO BE SOMEWHAT ATTRACTED TO THIS IDEA.

3. BOYD SAID HE ENVISAGING THREE POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES ON CANAL RESOLUTION. ONE WOULD CLEARLY SUPPORT PANAMANIAN POSITION WHICH PRESUMABLY WOULD BE VETOED BY US. SECOND WOULD BE NEGOTIABLE AND WOULD
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INCLUDE POINTS ALREADY AGREED UPON BY US AND GOP
IN NEGOTIATIONS ON CANAL ISSUE AND GUIDELINES FOR RESOLUTION
REMAINING ITEMS. I TOLD HIM THAT THIS VAGUE FORMULATION SOUNDED
AS IF SC WOULD GET ITSELF INVOLVED SUBSTANCE OF NEGOTIATIONS
WHICH MIGHT MAKE SUCH A R

3. THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE AVOIDED CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES
AND CONCENTRATED ON AREAS OF SUBSTANTIAL AGREE-
MENT. ON INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS, THE TWO SIDES EXCHANGED
COMPLIMENTS ON THEIR RESPECTIVE CONTRIBUTIONS TO CSCE AND
"EXPRESSED THEIR CONVICTION" THAT PLENARY SESSIONS SHOULD
BEGIN THIS SUMMER IN HELSINKI. THEY ALSO CONCURRED IN
THE NEED FOR IMMEDIATE EFFORTS TO PROTECT THE BALTIC,
ADDING THE POLITICAL NOTE THAT THIS TASK WOULD BE EASIER
WHEN RELATIONS AMONG ALL BALTIC STATES HAVE BEEN
NORMALIZED. IN ADDITION, THE POLES PRAISED FINLAND'S
POLICY OF "ACTIVE NEUTRALITY" AND BOTH SIDES SUPPORTED
THE CALLING OF A WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE. ON THE
BILATERAL FRONT, THERE WAS AGREEMENT THAT MUTUAL CONTACT
ON ALL LEVELS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED AND ECONOMIC
COOPERATION INTENSIFIED.

4. COMMENT: WE WERE TOLD BY THE FINNISH AMBASSADOR
BEFORE THE VISIT THAT SORSA ORIGINALLY HAD CONTEMPLATED
A SKIING TRIP TO POLAND AND HAD LATER YIELDED TO A
POLISH INVITATION TO COMBINE BUSINESS WITH PLEASURE.
WE ALSO NOTE HELSINKI'S REMARKS (HELSINKI 448) ABOUT
POLISH AMBASSADOR WILLMAN'S EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT THE
SORSA VISIT. IN RETROSPECT, THE CONCRETE RESULTS OF THE
VISIT WOULD HARDLY SEEM TO JUSTIFY THIS INTENSIVE CAMPAIGN.
BUT WHILE THE POLISH "CHARM OFFENSIVE" CONTINUES, THE
POLES SEEM WILLING TO GO TO GREAT LENGTHS TO EMPHASIZE
THEIR INTEREST IN IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH THEIR
SCANDINAVIAN NEIGHBORS.
DAVIES

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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